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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/693,486	10/27/2003	Yun Chur Chung	117615	3120
25944 7590 03/13/2007 OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			EXAMINER WANG, QUAN ZHEN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2613	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/13/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/693,486	CHUNG ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Quan-Zhen Wang	2613	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 February 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Reynolds et al. (U.S. Patent US 7,024,120 B2).

Regarding claim 1, Reynolds discloses a wavelength-division-multiplexed metro optical network (fig. 1) comprising: a transmitting unit (fig. 1, combinations of 16, 18, and OM) having transmitters (fig. 1, OT 16) for directly modulating (column 4, lines 4-12) a light into digital optical signals with different wavelengths and outputting the modulated optical signals and a multiplexer (fig. 1, OM) for multiplexing the optical signals outputted from the transmitters and transmitting the multiplexed signal; a receiving unit (fig. 1, receiving system 26) having a demultiplexer (fig. 1, OD 28) for receiving the multiplexed signal outputted from the multiplexer, demultiplexing the received signal on the basis of the respective wavelengths, and outputting the demultiplexed signals, and receivers (fig. 1, receiver 32) for receiving the demultiplexed signals outputted from the demultiplexer; and an optical fiber (fig. 1, fiber 24) connected between the multiplexer

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and the demultiplexer, wherein the optical fiber ("Corning SMF-LS", column 5, lines 37-39) has a negative dispersion value of from -1 ps/nm/km to -3.3 ps/nm/km at a wavelength of 1550 nm, and a positive dispersion inclination (Sarchi et al. U.S. Patent US 6,577,800 B2 is cited here to show inherent characteristics of SMF-LS: as it is shown in fig. 3 of Sarchi, "Corning SMF-LS" has a negative dispersion value of from -1 ps/nm/km to -3.3 ps/nm/km at a wavelength of 1550 nm, and a positive dispersion inclination).

Regarding claim 4, Reynolds discloses that the system utilizing Corning SMF-LS which has a zero-dispersion wavelength of from 1560 nm to 1595 nm, as it is shown in fig. 3 of Sarchi.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2-3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reynolds et al. (U.S. Patent US 7,024,120 B2) in view of Sarchi et al. (U.S. Patent US 6,577,800 B2).

Regarding claim 2, Reynolds differs from the claimed invention in that Reynolds does not specifically disclose that at least one optical amplifier disposed between the multiplexer and the demultiplexer. However, it is well known in the art to dispose optical

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amplifiers between a multiplexer and a demultiplexer. For example, Sarchi discloses to dispose optical amplifiers between a multiplexer (transmitting node) and a demultiplexer (receiving node) (fig. 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time when the invention was made to incorporate optical amplifiers disposed between the multiplexer and the demultiplexer, as it is taught by Sarchi, in the system of Reynolds in order to compensate for the insertion loss of the transmission fiber.

Regarding claim 3, Sarchi further discloses that the neighboring optical amplifier is less or equal 80 km (column 6, lines 11-13) which covers the range of from 10 km to 80 km.

Regarding claim 5, Sarchi further discloses that the transmitters have a transmission speed per channel of 10 Gb/s (column 13, lines 65-67).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed February 28, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues, "Reynolds fails to teach or suggest a wavelength-division-multiplexer metro optical network, including a transmitting unit having transmitters for directly modulating a light into digital optical signals with different wavelengths and outputting the modulated optical signals and a multiplexer for multiplexing the optical signals outputted from the transmitters and transmitting the multiplexed signal, as recited in claim 1." Examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant. Reynolds explicitly

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discloses "a transmitting unit having transmitters for directly modulating a light into digital optical signals with different wavelengths and outputting the modulated optical signals and a multiplexer for multiplexing the optical signals outputted from the transmitters and transmitting the multiplexed signal" (column 7, lines 13-21). Please note that, in accordance to MPEP, "the use of patents as references is not limited to what the patentees describe as their own inventions or to the problems with which they are concerned. They are part of the literature of the art, relevant for all they contain." In *re Heck*, 699 F.2d 1331, 1332-33, 216 USPQ 1038, 1039 (Fed. Cir. 1983) (quoting *In re Lemelson*, 397 F.2d 1006, 1009, 158 USPQ 275, 277 (CCPA 1968)). A reference may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art, including nonpreferred embodiments. *Merck & Co. v. Biocraft Laboratories*, 874 F.2d 804, 10 USPQ2d 1843 (Fed. Cir.), cert. denied, 493 U.S. 975 (1989). See also *Upsher-Smith Labs. v. Pamlab, LLC*, 412 F.3d 1319, 1323, 75 USPQ2d 1213, 1215 (Fed. Cir. 2005) (See MPEP §2123). Therefore, claim 1 is clearly anticipated by Reynolds and the rejection still stands. For the same reason, the rejections of claims 2-5 still stand.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

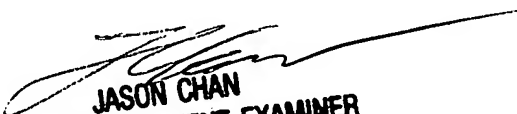
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

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TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quan-Zhen Wang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3114. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Chan can be reached on (571) 272-3022. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.


JASON CHAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

qzw
3/5/2007